

Now, sir, Congress, by this granting of power, is invested with all legislation whatsoever over the District. Not only is it here invested, but it is exclusively invested, with all legislation, so that the States have no legislative power in the District. Now, sir, I think we conceive of any language more particular and comprehensive than that which invests a legislative body with exclusive power in all cases whatsoever of legislation over the District. Now, sir, is there any power to abolish slavery in this District? Let me suppose, in addition to what I suggested the other day, that slavery had been abolished in Maryland and in the District of Columbia, and the supposition that it was abolished in all the States in the Union: is there any power, then, to abolish slavery within the District of Columbia, or anywhere else, where it is not abolished? If slavery is planted here to all eternity, it is not a part of the property of any legislative power for its abolition? It cannot be invested in Maryland, because the power with which Congress is invested is exclusive. Maryland, therefore, is excluded, as all the other States are. The District is excluded, here, or it is nowhere. This is the view which I took in 1838; and I think there is nothing in the resolution which I offered upon that occasion incompatible with the view which I now present, and, which I now maintain. What I then admitted the power to exist in Congress, and exclusively in Congress, to legislate in all cases whatsoever—and consequently in the case of the abolition of slavery within this District, if it seemed to proper to do so—I then stated upon that occasion, I contented myself with that; it was a power which Congress cannot

not think that States, or States, are to be held responsible for all the misconduct of particular individuals within those States. I think States provisions of the Ordinance of 1787. I proposed, therefore, that the committee should be chosen by ballot. Well, sir, my motion was car-

aven has alone, which has exhibited so much prosperity as our own?

[SEE SECOND PAGE]

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